

Dos and Don'ts Chinese culture



A handshake is the most common form of non-verbal greeting, or just a nod, though neither is necessary.



Chopsticks: Under no circumstances should chopsticks be placed upright in your bowl. This symbolizes death. Nor should you tap your bowl with chopsticks.



Present and receive things with both hands.



Chinese people usually **do not unwrap gifts** when receiving them. When you receive a gift, do not open them unless they insist, or you may simply ask, "Can I open it?"



Even numbers are considered good luck, with number four being the exception. It is the same word for “death”.



一
yī one



二
èr two



三
sān three



四
sì four



五
wǔ five



六
liù six



七
qī seven



八
bā eight



九
jiǔ nine



十
shí ten

Chinese people are just as proud of their country as visitors are of theirs, and probably more so. Discussions regarding politics, state leaders, recent history, and issues about Taiwan, Xinjiang and Tibet are sensitive.



Never write things in red ink. It symbolizes protest or severe criticism.



Punctuality is considered a virtue in China.
Being on time shows respect for others.
Chinese people show up a bit earlier to show
their earnestness.



Public displays of affection are frowned upon. Do not back slap, hug or put your arm around someone's shoulder, which will make a Chinese feel uncomfortable. Of course you can do so if you are familiar with each other.



If something unexpected happens, don't get upset. This leads to someone losing face. Remain calm and patient, and ask for help to solve the issue.

